

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER LIBRARY
ABILENE, KANSAS

AARON PLATNER: Papers, 1910-52

Accession 89-8
Processed by: TB
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The papers of Aaron Platner were deposited in the Eisenhower Library by his niece Constance Acterberg in March 1989.

Linear feet:	-1
Approximate number of pages:	6
Approximate number of items:	5

Constance Acterberg signed an instrument of gift for the papers on November 7, 2005. Literary rights in the unpublished writings of Aaron Platner in this collection and in all other collections of papers received by the National Archives have been donated to the public. Under terms of the instrument of gift, the following classes of items are withheld from research use:

1. Papers which constitute an invasion of personal privacy or a libel of a living person.
2. Papers which are required to be kept secret in the interest of national defense or foreign policy, and are properly classified.

Scope and Content Note

Aaron Platner, farmer and soldier, was born in Ellsworth County, Kansas on July 26, 1891. He moved to Ellis, Kansas, in 1908 where he graduated from high school in 1911. In 1910 he went to St. Louis, Missouri, to take an examination for admission to the U.S. Military Academy at West Point. Another high school student taking the exam was Dwight D. Eisenhower of Abilene, Kansas. Eisenhower scored higher and received the appointment.

After graduating from high school, Platner worked in a grain elevator for a year, taught school in Wyoming for a year, and then obtained a job with the Union Pacific railroad at Ellis. In 1917, at the start of World War I, he enlisted in the army and was commissioned a captain. On November 5, 1918, he died of wounds received in the battle of Argonne Forest in France.

The papers of Aaron Platner consist of two letters of endorsement written by friends in April 1917; a poor quality photocopy of a 1910 letter from Dwight D. Eisenhower commenting on the trip to St. Louis; and a 1952 newspaper article giving biographical information on Platner and Eisenhower. A more legible copy of the 1910 Eisenhower letter is in box 89 of Eisenhower's Pre-Presidential Papers, folder title Pla-Plu. Aaron's brother Conrad Platner sent this copy to Eisenhower in 1944.

The collection also contains a small quantity of memorabilia that has been transferred to other divisions of the Eisenhower Library. This includes a photograph of Platner in his World War I uniform, Platner's military medals, and a 1944 road map of France.

Container List

<u>Box No.</u>	<u>Contents</u>
1	Papers

END OF CONTAINER LIST